

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: "UNITRA" CORNERSTONE CEREMONY

1. AN OFFICIAL CORNERSTONE CEREMONY WAS HELD AT PIASECZNO NEAR WARSAW ON DECEMBER 13 FOR A NEW "UNITRA" ELECTRONICS ENTERPRISE PLANT, WHICH WILL CONSTRUCT 300,000 COLOR TELEVISION SETS ANNUALLY BY 1980. THE COLOR TELEVISION KINESCOPIES WILL BE MANUFACTURED UNDER LICENSE AGREEMENTS WITH TWO AMERICAN FIRMS, THE RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA AND THE CORNING GLASS CORPORATION.

2. TAKING PART IN THE NOVEMBER 13 CEREMONY WERE EDGAR H. GRIFFITHS, PRESIDENT OF THE RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA, AND JOHN HOUGHTON, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE CORNING GLASS CORPORATION AND CHAIRMAN OF CORNING INTERNATIONAL. ALSO ATTENDING WERE POLISH MINISTER OF THE MACHINE INDUSTRY ALEXANDER KOPEC AND CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE AMERICAN EMBASSY CARROLL BROWN.

3. SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY TO SEVERAL HUNDRED WORKERS ALREADY WORKING ON THE NEW PLANT, MR. GRIFFITHS EXTENDED "COMPLIMENTS ON SELECTION OF THE SITE AND ON THE PROGRAM TO DATE." IN DESCRIBING HIS FIRST VISIT TO POLAND, THE RCA EXECUTIVE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN "TREMENDOUSLY IMPRESSED" BY THE RECONSTRUCTION OF WARSAW AND BY THE "FRIENDLINESS OF THE POLISH PEOPLE." MR. GRIFFITHS RECALLED THAT HIS CORPORATION HAD BEEN THE PIONEER OF COLOR TELEVISION DEVELOPMENT IN THE UNITED STATES. "THE SAME PEOPLE," HE SAID, WILL BE WORKING WITH THEIR POLISH COLLEAGUES TO

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ASSURE THAT POLAND HAS THE "MOST SUCCESSFUL, FINEST, AND MOST

MODERN PLANT IN THE WORLD".

4. CORNING INTERNATIONAL CHAIRMAN HOUGHTON NOTED THE 200-YEAR HISTORY OF POLISH AND AMERICAN COOPERATION, WHICH WAS BEING CELEBRATED IN THIS BICENTENNIAL YEAR. MR. HOUGHTON OBSERVED THAT HE "SAW THE SAME SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP HERE TODAY" IN THE OFFICIAL BEGINNING OF COLLABORATION BY "UNITRA" WITH THE TWO AMERICAN CORPORATIONS.
BRADSHAW

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